

(2) return to
ACM/P
military

FOR THE NOON BRIEFING

February 3, 1962

Bloc Arms and Military Equipment Supplied to Cuba

Is there anything to reports that MIGs and rockets have been supplied to Cuba?

The Department's recent document "The Castro Regime in Cuba" summarized Sino-Soviet bloc arms shipments to Cuba as of August 1961. Since that date the focus of the Bloc's military aid to Cuba has been on assimilation of new equipment, intensive training, and completion of the reorganization of Cuba's military establishment. ^{Future} ~~Further~~ military shipments to Cuba may include bombers, naval craft, and possibly short-ranged tactical guided missiles.

Our total estimates of Bloc arms and military equipment supplied to Cuba are:

<u>Type of Equipment</u>	<u>Estimated Quantity</u>
MIG jet fighters	50-100
Medium and heavy tanks	150-200
Assault guns	50-100
Field artillery	500-1000
Antiaircraft artillery	500-1000
Mortars	500
Small arms	200,000
Trucks and other vehicles	4,000

Aren't you concerned about this buildup?

Of course we are. The danger which Cuba poses to the security of this hemisphere was one of the main reasons for the recent Meeting of Foreign Ministers. As you know, the Meeting demonstrated, among other things, the determination of the OAS members to strengthen our defenses both individually and collectively against the communist offensive.

ARA:F:CHEmm/c1